

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 AID-05
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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1262

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GV, KU, EAID

SUBJ: GUINEAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO KUWAIT

1. PRES. SEKOU TOURE OF GUINEA VISITED KUWAIT JUNE 17-19
ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SPOUSE, FINANCE MINISTER AND OTHERS.
BILATERAL TALKS REPORTEDLY DWELT ON KUWAITI ECONOMIC AID TO
GUINEA, THE POLITICAL SITUATIONS IN AFRICA AND THE ARAB WORLD,
AND AFRO-ARAB RELATIONS.

2. KUWAITI OFFICIALS TOLD NEWSMEN THAT KUWAIT HAD ALREADY
"GRANTED" GUINEA \$6 MILLION (ONE REPORT SAYS \$7 MILLION)
FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY OF AN ALUMINUM PROJECT AND NEWS REPORTS
NOTE KUWAIT WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN "SEVERAL" OTHER
PROJECTS. GOK FIN MIN ATEEQI ALLUDED TO CURRENT KUWAITI
FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF WATER STORAGE DAM CONSTRUCTION. GUINEAN
OFFICIALS ARE NOT QUOTED IN THE PRESS AND PRES. TOURE REPORTEDLY
CANCELLED A PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 18 DUE TO "SLIGHT INDISPOSITION."
AS IS USUALLY THE CASE WITH STATE VISITS TO KUWAIT, THERE WAS
NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE. HOWEVER, GOK DID ISSUE BOILERPLATE
STATEMENT NOTING MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN
ARAB SOLIDARITY AND THE AMIR'S ACCEPTANCE OF PRES. TOURE'S
INVITATION FOR A RETURN VISIT "AT A DATE TO BE SET LATER."

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3. COMMENT: IN PAST TWO YEARS, THE ONLY FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WE
KNOW OF WHICH GOK HAS GIVEN TO GUINEA OUTSIDE OF REPORTED
SUPPORT FOR ALUMINUM PROJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY IS SMALL
(\$360,000) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR STUDY OF SECOND
STAGE OF \$41 MILLION DUBREKA-BOKE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.
TOURE VISIT NO DOUBT FOCUSSED HIGH-LEVEL KUWAITI ATTENTION ON

POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE FOR OTHER PROJECTS IN GUINEA. HOWEVER,
SUCH HEAD OF STATE LEVEL REQUESTS ARE ROUTINE FOR KUWAIT.
UNLESS GUINEA GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO PROVIDE REQUISITE
INFORMATION FOR DETAILED KUWAIT FUND FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND
COOPERATE WITH KUWAIT FUND ECONOMISTS SENT TO LOOK INTO SUCH
PROJECTS, IT COULD BE VERY LONG TIME BEFORE GENERAL GUINEAN
REQUESTS LEAD TO ACTUAL LOAN AGREEMENTS.
SUTHERLAND

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